

REMARKS

Claims 1, 4-18, 20 and 22 are pending in this application. By this Response, Applicants amended claims 1, 9, 11, 14 and 15, and cancelled claims 7, 8, 12, 13, 18, 20 and 22. Accordingly, claims 1, 4-6, 9-11 and 14-17 are at issue.

In the Office Action the Examiner rejected claim 1 under 35 U.S.C. § 112(f) based on the recitation of the term “fast”. The Examiner also rejected claims 1, 4-12, 18, 20 and 22 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over various prior art references. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The Examiner also indicated that claim 13 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Claim Amendments

Claim 13 was objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim. As suggested by the Examiner, Applicants amended claim 1 to include all of the limitations of objected to claim 13 and all intervening claims. Additionally, the Applicants amended claim 1 to eliminate the 35 U.S.C. §112 rejection. Finally, the Applicants have amended claims 9, 11, 14 and 15 to appropriately identify dependency. Accordingly, the Applicants respectfully assert that claim 1 is patentable as amended, and that all claims depending from this independent claim are patentable as well.

CONCLUSION

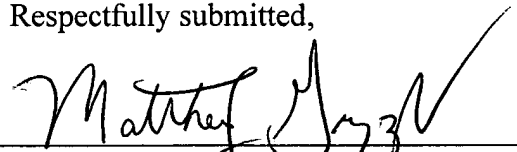
In light of the foregoing reasons, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and allowance of claims 1, 4-6, 9-11 and 14-17. The Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or credit any overpayments associated with this Amendment to Deposit Account 13-0206.

Applicants further invite the Examiner to contact the undersigned representative at the telephone number below to discuss any remaining matters pertaining to the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


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By:


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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail, postage prepaid, in an envelope addressed to: MAIL STOP AF, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on December 17, 2009.


Sarah J. Goodnight